(b) The Commission will submit its report within one year.

(c) The Commission shall decide its own procedure and hear and entertain all persons, representations and communications which in the opinion of the Commission shall facilitate its work and final recommendation.

Cases pending in High Courts of Punjab

2091. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the High court of Punjab and its various branches by the end of 1999; and

(b) the number of cases pending for more than 5 years and steps taken for early disposal of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) The number of cases pending in the High Court of Punjab as on 31.12.1999 is 1,84,964.

(b) The number of cases pending for more than 5 years is 82,496.

Various steps have been taken by the High Court of Punjab & Haryana, Viz., grouping of cases involving common question of law through a Grouping Officer appointed in this behalf. Necessary classification of benches is also being resorted to in the High Court of Punjab & Haryana. At the time of admission of cases, notice is taken of short matters and they are disposed of immediately after the service of notice of motion on the respondents. For speedy justice, a permanent Lok Adalat has been set up in the High Court of Punjab & Haryana wherein cases are disposed of amicably in between the parties.

Removal of Ban in IRCC on taking new Works

2092. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ban imposed on Indian Road Construction Corporation Ltd. during 1986 for taking up new works is yet to be lifted resulting in the blockage of its generating resources and consequential losses running into crores of rupees;

(b) whether it is also a fact that IRCC has not been taking any budgetary support from Government since 1992;

(c) if so, the reasons for continuance of the ban imposed on IRCC turning it into a non-viable enterprise; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY O SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) IRCC had practically no work for the last about ten years and was accumulating huge losses. Government has, therefore, decided to wind up the Corporation.

Filling Up of Top Level Posts in IRCC

2093. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the top level posts in Indian Road Construction Corporation Ltd., such as CMD, GGMs, and GMs are remaining vacant for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the period for which such posts are lying vacant;

(c) the reasons for not filling up these vacancies; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) details of top level posts and the dates from which they are vacant are as under:

CMD:	Part-time CMD since 14th March, 1996.
Group General Manager:	Vacant since 6.2.1991
General Manager (Civil):	Vacant since 1.11.1996
General Manager (Finance):	Vacant since 2.6.1987
General Manager (Administration):	Vacant since 1.3.1998

(c) and (d) There is parctically no work load in corporation for the last ten years. The Government has decided to wind up IRCC. The question of filling the vacancies does not arise.